



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

HARRINGTON & SMITH, PC
4 RESEARCH DRIVE
SHELTON CT 06484-6212

COPY MAILED

MAY 23 2008

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Scott :
Application No. 09/886,419 : DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: June 21, 2001 :
Attorney Docket No. 857.0016.U1(US) :

This is a decision on the petition, filed January 14, 2008 (certificate of mailing date January 11, 2008), which is being treated as a petition under 37 CFR 1.181 (no fee) requesting withdrawal of the holding of abandonment in the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This application was held abandoned for failure to reply to the final Office action mailed December 8, 2006, which set a three (3) month shortened statutory period for reply. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed on January 8, 2008.

Petitioner asserts that the Office action dated December 8, 2006 was not received.

A review of the written record indicates an irregularity in the mailing of the Office action – it was returned to the Office on December 12, 2006. In addition, applicant has provided a showing that the Office action was not in fact received. In this regard, the showing required to establish the failure to receive the Office action must consist of the following:

1. a statement from practitioner stating that the Office action was not received by the practitioner;
2. a statement from the practitioner attesting to the fact that a search of the file jacket and docket records indicates that the Office action was not received; and
3. a copy of the docket record where the nonreceived Office action would have been entered had it been received and docketed must be attached to and referenced in the practitioner's statement.

See MPEP § 711.03(c) under subheading "Petition to Withdraw Holding of Abandonment Based on Failure to Receive Office Action," and "Withdrawing the Holding of Abandonment When Office Actions Are Not Received," 1156 Official Gazette 53 (November 16, 1993).

The petition satisfies the above-stated requirements. Accordingly, the application was not abandoned in fact.

In view of the above, the Notice of Abandonment is hereby vacated and the holding of abandonment withdrawn.

This application is being referred to the Technology Center technical support staff of Art Unit 2174 for re-mailing the Office action of December 8, 2006. The period for reply will run from the mailing date of the Office action.

Shirene Willis Brantley
Shirene Willis Brantley
Senior Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions